S.No.	Recommendations	Action taken
	established. The Committee to regularly monitor the functioning of the District Coordination Committee and provide appropriate advice of the strategy to be adopted for controlling poaching and illegal wildlife trade effectively.	set up State level Coordination Committees.
2.	Ministry of Home Affairs to take up issues relating to poaching and illegal trade of wildlife with the State Governments.	Ministry of Home Affairs has requested the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations of the Environment and Forests Ministry to control the practice of illegal trade in wildlife.
3.	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) should sensitize its Economic Offences Wing to treat wildlife offences at par with narcotics trade and take effective action to nab/apprehend the kingpins and masterminds involved in illegal trafficking of wildlife products. CBI should also help in nabbing all the king-pins of illegal wildlife trade which may be working from outside the country.	Centra) Bureau of Investigation has been authorised under the Sections SO and 55 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to prevent wildlife offences and to file cases in the Court of Law.
4.	Training of Wildlife officials on latest investigation techniques pertaining to wildlife offences.	Training programmes have been organized in intelligence gathering and crime prevention with special reference to wildlife at the National Police Academy, Hyderabad.

Felling of Forest Wealth

1493. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to reckless felling of forest wealth erosion has increased tremendously in North-Westem Himalayas comprising Himachal Pradesh, J&K and Uttaranchal, converting certain parts of those State into desert; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to prevent such erosion?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There is no report with the Govemment of India that due to reckless felling of forest wealth erosion has tremendously increased in North-Westem Himalayas comprising Himachal Pradesh, J&K and Uttaranchal, converting certain parts of State into desert. The latest State of Forest Report 1999 of the Forest Survey of India indicates an increase in forest cover in the States of Himachal Pradesh and J&K. The report indicates an increase in forest cover in the districts of Nainital, Pilibhit and Pithoragarh and no change in forest cover in other districts of Uttaranchal.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Environment Projects in Gujarat

1494. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

the projects undertaken for improvement of environment in Gujarat during the last two years;

the extent of success achieved; and

the details of other such projects to be undertaken in the State during the remaining period of the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The details of the projects undertaken for improvement of environment in Gujarat during the last two years and the physical progress achieved are given in the enclosed Statement *(See below)*

(c) Ongoing Projects/Schemes will continue during the remaining period of the Ninth Five Year Plan.